THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A number of issues required examination in consultation with various Government Departments and Agencies.

(c) This project is estimated to earn about Rs. 194 crores in foreign exchange over a period of 10 years.

(d) According to Punjab Agro Industries Corporation, the project will provide direct employment to 500 persons and indirect employment opportunities to a substantial number of people in agriculture, ancillaries, retail and distribution systems, etc.

Joint ventures with FRG

1959. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Federal Republic of Germany has agreed to collaborate with India in joint ventures in hi-tech industries;

(b) if so, whether Government have since entered into any agreement with the Federal Republic of Germany for starting joint ventures in India; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) Government welcome cooperation with other countries in the hi-tech areas to modernise our industries and improve their productivity to make, them inter-nationally competitive provided the terms and conditions offered are within our policy parameters. Industrial collaborations are a continuing process. FRG occupies a prominent position in technology transfer to Indian companies. The foreign collaboration cases approved with FRG constitute about 18 per cent of the total approvals sanctioned by the Government. However, Government have not signed any specific agreement with FRG for starting joint ventures in India.

Prices of tyres and tubes

1960. SHRI PUTTAPAGA RADHAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of automobile tyres and tubes have been increased by the manufacturers during the last three years; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what steps Government have taken to control the prices of tyres and tubes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Tyre and tube prices were increased by manufacturers during the last 3 years as follows:

March, 1985—8% to 9.5%
April-May, 1986—5%
July, 1987—7%

(b) According to the Automotive Tyre Manufacturers Association, the reason for the increase in prices is the increase in input costs. There are no statutory control over prices of tyres and tubes. However, in order to allow free play to market forces and protect the consumers interests, Government have been liberally sanctioning fresh capacities and allowing existing units to expand their capacities under the minimum economic scales scheme. Government are in regular touch with the manufacturers to maximise production of tyres and tubes in order to ensure their adequate availability and may also consider import of tyres if the need arises.

उत्तर प्रदेश में सरकारी क्षेत्र के एककों के लिए धनराशियां

1961. **श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय** : क्या उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) केन्द्रीय सरकार ने 29 फरवरी, 1988 तक उत्तर प्रदेश में सरकारी क्षेत्र